

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION OF 12/13/2002

SERIAL NO: 09/336,424  
DOCKET NO: 149-0112USIn the Claims

Amend claims as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method, comprising:

- b/
- a) receiving a message that was sent from a remote device, said message comprising **[either]** a definition, a state change, **and** a command **[or some combination thereof]**, said definition defining a fixed aspect of a user environment, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said user environment, said command being a directive that causes a function to be performed; and
  - b) processing said definition **[if said message included said definition, said processing of said definition occurring]** before **[:]** said state change **[is processed, if said message included said state change,]** and **[before]** said command **[is]are** processed~~],~~ **[if said message included said command]**,  
processing said state change **[if said message included said state change, said processing of said state change occurring]** before~~:]~~ said command is processed, **[if said message included said command]**, and  
processing said command **[if said message included said command]**.

2. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said command further comprises an express command.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said express command corresponds to a clicking a mouse button.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said express command corresponds to hitting an enter key.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said express command corresponds to selecting an option from a menu.

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6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said command is an instruction command.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said instruction command corresponds to getting a form.
8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said state change corresponds to a new value in a form.
9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said definition corresponds to the definition of a form.
10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said processing said definition further comprises updating a definition record associated with a GUI understanding with said definition.
11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said processing said state change further comprises updating a state record associated with a GUI understanding with said state change.
12. (Previously Amended) A method executed by a local device that cooperatively operates with a remote device in order to implement an application software program, said device separated from said remote device by a network, said method comprising:
- a) recognizing that a dependence on said remote device exists, said dependence being a need for said remote device to perform some act, said act allowing said application software program to continue to operate; and
  - b) sending a message to said remote device, said message comprising either a definition, a state change, a command or some combination thereof, said definition

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defining a fixed aspect of a said application software program, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said application software program, said command being a directive that causes said remote device to perform said act.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said command (if any) further comprises an express command.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said express command corresponds to a clicking a mouse button.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said express command corresponds to hitting an enter key.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said express command corresponds to selecting an option from a menu.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said command (if any) is an instruction command.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said instruction command corresponds to getting a form.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said state change (if any) corresponds to a new value in a form.

20. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said definition (if any) corresponds to the definition of a form.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising updating a GUI understanding by processing said definition (if any) before processing said state change (if any).

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said processing said definition (if any) further comprises updating a definition record associated with said GUI understanding with said definition (if any).

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said processing said state change (if any) further comprises updating a state record associated with said GUI understanding with said state change (if any).

24. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

- a) receiving an acknowledgement message from said remote device, said acknowledgement message comprising either a second definition, a second state change, a second command or some combination thereof; and
- b) processing said second definition (if any) before said second state change (if any) and before said second command (if any); and
- c) processing said second state change (if any) before processing said second command (if any).

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising translating said definition (if any), said state change (if any) and said command (if any) to a GUI.

26. (**Currently Amended**) A device having a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the acts of:

- a) receiving a message that was sent from a remote device, said message comprising [**either**] a definition, a state change, **and** a command [**or some**

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**combination thereof]**, said definition defining a fixed aspect of a user environment, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said user environment, said command being a directive that causes a function to be performed; and

b) processing said definition **[if said message included said definition, said processing of said definition occurring]** before said state change **[is processed, if said message included said state change,]** and **[before]** said command **[is]are** processed, **[if said message included said command,]**

processing said state change **[if said message included said state change, said processing of said state change occurring]** before said command is processed, **[if said message included said command,]** and

processing said command **[if said message included said command].**

27. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said command further comprises an express command.

28. (Original) The device of claim 27 wherein said express command corresponds to a clicking a mouse button.

29. (Original) The device of claim 27 wherein said express command corresponds to hitting an enter key.

30. (Original) The device of claim 27 wherein said express command corresponds to selecting an option from a menu.

31. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said command is an instruction command.

32. (Original) The device of claim 31 wherein said instruction command corresponds to getting a form.

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33. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said state change corresponds to a new value in a form.

34. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said definition corresponds to the definition of a form.

35. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said processing said definition further comprises updating a definition record associated with a GUI understanding with said definition.

36. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein said processing said state change further comprises updating a state record associated with a GUI understanding with said state change.

37. (Previously Amended) A local device that cooperatively operates with a remote device in order to implement an application software program, said device separated from said remote device by a network, said device having a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the acts of:

- a) recognizing that a dependence on said remote device exists, said dependence being a need for said remote device to perform some act, said act allowing said application software program to continue to operate; and
- b) sending a message to said remote device, said message comprising either a definition, a state change, a command or some combination thereof, said definition defining a fixed aspect of a said application software program, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said application software program, said command being a directive that causes said remote device to perform said act.

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38. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said command (if any) further comprises an express command.

39. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 38 wherein said express command corresponds to a clicking a mouse button.

40. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 38 wherein said express command corresponds to hitting an enter key

41. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 38 wherein said express command corresponds to selecting an option from a menu.

42. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said command (if any) is an instruction command.

43. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 42 wherein said instruction command corresponds to getting a form.

44. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said state change (if any) corresponds to a new value in a form.

45. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said definition (if any) corresponds to the definition of a form.

46. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 further comprising updating a GUI understanding by processing said definition (if any) before processing said state change (if any).

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47. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 46 wherein said processing said definition (if any) further comprises updating a definition record associated with said GUI understanding with said definition (if any).

48. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said processing said state change (if any) further comprises updating a state record associated with said GUI understanding with said state change (if any).

49. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 37 wherein said sequence of instructions further cause the processor to implement the steps of:

- a) receiving an acknowledgement message from said remote device, said acknowledgement message comprising either a second definition, a second state change, a second command or some combination thereof; and
- b) processing said second definition (if any) before said second state change (if any) and before said second command (if any); and
- c) processing said second state change (if any) before processing said second command (if any).

50. (Previously Amended) The local device of claim 49 further comprising translating said definition (if any), said state change (if any) and said command (if any) to a GUI.

51. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method, said method comprising:

- a) receiving a message that was sent from a remote device, said message comprising **[either]** a definition, a state change, **and** a command **[or some combination thereof]**, said definition defining a fixed aspect of a user environment, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said user environment, said command being a directive that causes a function to be performed; and **[,;]**



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- b) processing said definition **[if said message included said definition, said processing of said definition occurring]** before **[:]** said state change **[is processed, if said message included said state change]** and **[before]** said command **[is]are** processed, **[if said message included said command]**
- processing said state change **[if said message included said state change, said processing of said state change occurring]** before **[:]** said command is processed, **[if said message included said command,]** and
- processing said command **[if said message included said command].**

52. (Previously Amended) A machine readable medium to be executed by a local device that cooperatively operates with a remote device in order to implement an application software program, said device separated from said remote device by a network, said machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the acts of:

- a) recognizing that a dependence on said remote device exists, said dependence being a need for said remote device to perform some act, said act allowing said application software program to continue to operate; and
- b) sending a message to said remote device, said message comprising either a definition, a state change, a command or some combination thereof, said definition defining a fixed aspect of a said application software program, said state change describing a change in a non-fixed aspect of said application software program, said command being a directive that causes said remote device to perform said act.